

maries were followed, some aspects of some infections escaped attention. These oversights are minor, even insignificant, deficiencies, completely submerged in the general high quality of the book. The illustrations are numerous and illustrative; the index (52 pages) is invaluable. The authors have set an excellent example in this index; the listings are logical and its coverage of the text is complete. Equally welcome to any physician or public health worker in the tropics are the descriptions of carefully selected and fully proven diagnostic laboratory procedures essential in tropical medicine. Any physician reading this manual will receive a good introduction to the ecology of human disease under the impact of environmental provocative factors.

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THE THYROID—A Physiological, Pathological, Clinical and Surgical Study. T. Levitt, M.A., F.R.C.S.(Eng.), F.R.C.S.(Ed.), F.R.C.S.I., Hunterian Professor of the Royal College of Surgeons. E. & S. Livingstone, Ltd., London. Distributed through Williams and Wilkins Co., Baltimore, 1954. 606 pages, \$20.00.

This volume is written to elaborate upon and attempt to substantiate the author's hypothesis that "abnormalities of the thyroid gland are not isolated diseases, but are phases in an evolving continuum." He has found it expedient to describe six progressive phases of the toxic gland, as follows: (1) epithelial hyperplasia, (2) lymphoepithelial hyperplasia, (3) focal lymphoid hyperplasia, (4) diffuse lymphoid hyperplasia, (5) fibrolymphoid hyperplasia, (6) fibrosis.

With such a purpose and with a new classification, it is not surprising that the arrangement of the subject matter is novel. The reviewer, however, found the book difficult to read because of awkward wording, unclear concepts, and particularly because many statements of controversial nature are offered as fact with little or no qualification. The volume is profusely and beautifully illustrated in color as well as in black and white. In actual fact, the volume becomes more a text than an elaboration of an hypothesis, because it includes a discussion of all phases of thyroidology, from physiological considerations to surgical technique, albeit with the author's personal orientation. The special student of thyroid disease may find the book of interest because of its photography and the style of presentation, but the book is not recommended as a textbook for the medical student or general practitioner.

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FRENCH'S INDEX OF DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS—Seventh Edition. Arthur H. Douthwaite, M.D., Senior Physician, Guy's Hospital; Honorary Physician, All Saints' Hospital for Genito-Urinary Diseases. The Williams and Wilkins Company, Baltimore, 1954. 1046 pages, 731 illustrations, 200 in color, \$20.00.

When the reviewer was a student, French's *Index of Differential Diagnosis* commanded a degree of awe and admiration which gave it an almost biblical quality. Since that time, physiological and etiological concepts have replaced the descriptive clinical patterns which French so diligently and comprehensively gathered into the *Index of Differential Diagnosis*, and other books have helped to civilize the wilderness into which French so bravely pioneered.

This is the first edition edited by Dr. A. A. Douthwaite. It has been completely revised or rewritten and has a number of new contributors. It has likewise been pruned to produce a more compact work; and much obsolete material has been weeded out and replaced. The indexing is still excellent.

However, the reviewer feels that a good deal remains to be done to give the book the status it once commanded. There is still too much retention of some of the older terms and concepts. (For example, Napkin Region Eruptions—applied

to infants and adults alike—requires a dictionary to set the American student straight.) There are not nearly enough tables of differential diagnosis and many of those present should be more inclusive. There are many excellent illustrations, a number of which are in color, but also quite a few which could well have been relegated to the limbo of the first or second edition.

To sum it up, too much of the book may be epitomized by the discussion on menorrhagia (pages 469-472): There is the usual definition and differentiation from metrorrhagia and methostaxis. There is the inclusive tabulation of the causes, divided into four categories. Then the contributor makes the revealing summary statement: "Since the discovery of the ovarian hormones and their activator the anterior pituitary gland, our conceptions of the causes of excessive menstrual loss have undergone considerable changes. It is a question whether some of the causes given in the above list should not be discarded, ovarian dysfunction being the true underlying cause."

Regardless of all this, the reviewer feels that there is a place for the *Index of Differential Diagnosis* on the reference shelf of medical libraries and as a one-volume consultant to be at the elbow of the medical practitioner. He recommends it for such purposes.

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RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY OF THE EYELIDS—2nd Edition. Wendell L. Hughes, M.D., F.A.C.S., Hempstead, N. Y., The C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, 1954. 260 pages, 268 illustrations, \$8.50.

This book, now in its second edition, is very worthwhile for ophthalmic as well as plastic surgeons. The book deals with historical data as well as present-day techniques. There are 210 pages of subject matter followed by a very extensive list of reference works.

There is a definite need for this type of book because not only is lid reconstruction cosmetic but must be done properly to protect and preserve the integrity of the eyeball. It is essential that this type of surgery not be attempted without proper knowledge of the subject.

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WINE AS FOOD AND MEDICINE. Salvatore P. Lucia, A.B., M.D., Sc.D., F.A.C.P., Professor of Medicine, U. C. School of Medicine. The Blakiston Company, Inc., New York, 1954. 149 pages, \$3.00.

An extremely interesting and worthwhile book describing the value of the *temperate* use of wine as a food and as a therapeutic agent. Its effect upon the psyche and various organ systems is thoroughly discussed. There is an extensive bibliography.

The scientific accuracy of the book is slightly impaired by reference to many experimental studies which are obsolete and to unsupported opinions from old writings.

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ENDEMIC GOITER—The Adaptation of Man to Iodine Deficiency. John B. Stanbury, M.D., Gordon L. Brownell, Ph.D., Douglas S. Riggs, M.D., and Hector Perinetti, M.D., Juan Itoiz, Ph.D., Enrique B. Del Castillo, M.D. Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Mass., 1954. 209 pages, \$4.00.

This is a fascinating and well-written account of the fundamental nature of endemic (iodine deficient) goiter. The authors have described their studies upon goitrous patients living on the Mendoza slopes of the Argentine Andes, an area known to be deficient in iodine. Such a study might never have been possible had not a team of American workers cooperated with Argentine physicians and officials and completed the study just prior to the introduction of iodized salt for goiter prophylaxis. Following a very interesting account of the locale of the study and a